

Faculty councils oppose UW-CIA regulations

by karin davies

Additional regulations are not necessary to prevent unethical ties between the University and the U.S. intelligence community, specifically the CIA, according to recommendations made yesterday by two faculty councils to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

The recommendations came in response to a request by UW President John Hogness that the Faculty Senate review a report by Steve Olswang, assistant to the provost.

Olswang said "the report was endorsed by all faculty committees who reviewed it and the Executive Faculty Senate concurred with their conclusions."

Olswang's report says existing University policies adequately monitor relations with government intelligence agencies. He concludes that because no direct links to secret CIA involvement here have been reported by the media or faculty, there is no reason to develop preventative guidelines.

Freedom of Information requests filed with the CIA by the Daily and the ASUW Board of Control could yield information substantiating that link.

The information should be received by May.

He said "this is the end of the issue and no new policies will be instituted because everyone agrees" that regulations governing intelligence involvement on campus are not necessary.

Everyone does not agree, however. In a letter to Morton Kroll, Faculty Senate chairperson, Jane Kenig, member of the Faculty Council on Grants and Con-

tract Research, said, "In general, we support the memorandum; however, there is one exception with regard to intelligence gathering. We recommend that University of Washington policy be stated very clearly in the matter. It should be the policy of the University of Washington that faculty, staff, and students should not undertake secret intelligence operations for the CIA or other intelligence agencies if they are identified as members of the University of Washington academic community."

Elaborating, Koenig said, "In light of the public attitude toward secret intelligence gathering, we wanted to get it down in black and white as a University policy that we are against such operations."

Joe Racek, who initiated the FOI petition, agreed saying, "I still maintain that regardless of whether or not there's any CIA activity on campus there is a need for a University policy."

He stressed the importance of the UW making a point that the administration will not tolerate clandestine CIA involvement even though the guidelines may not be followed.

Olswang's report said involvement in intelligence activities should be left to the individual's own moral and ethical standards as it "falls squarely in the realm of personal and professional integrity."

While recognizing the difficulties in enforcing guidelines on intelligence funding and involvement, John Prothero, associate professor of biological structure, said institution of an ethical conduct code would "create certain ex-

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Steve Olswang

pectations" for faculty members.

Colleges and universities across the nation have begun instituting special policies to guide their relationships with the CIA. Prothero suggested that the University adopt the Harvard University policy which bans secret relationships with intelligence agencies.

He is not optimistic about that possibility. "It will take a scandal to make this an issue of concern and prompt institution of a policy on government activity."

In the second review the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs also endorsed Olswang's report to the President. Citing UW policies requiring

"would-be consultants of intelligence organizations to report their activities to their deans or appropriate vice presidents" the subcommittee said no new policies are necessary.

On the basis of these two reports, Morton Kroll, faculty senate chairperson, will report to Hogness that "the policy the administration proposed is adequate. There are sufficient regulations concerning intelligence involvement on campus."

Kroll summarized, "Safeguards we have now are adequate and the kind of review we have of research contracts would certainly prohibit secret ties with any intelligence agencies."